Measures to encourage Ayurvedic/Homoeopathic Medicines

1701. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures taken by Government to encourage the Ayurvedic/Homoeopathic system of medicines in different parts of the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that CGHS Homoeopathic Unit Shahdara, Delhi is lying sick at present due to non-availability of pharmacist in this dispensary; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and the time by which the post of pharmacist in this dispensary is likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The measures taken by the Government are given below:—

(1) The Government has announced the National Policy on Indian systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy in the year 2002, to encourage the Ayurvedic/Homoeopathic systems of medicine in the different parts of the country.

(2) Under the National Reporductive Child Health (RCH) programme, seven Ayurvedic drugs have been introduced in nine States *i.e.* Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Five Unani drugs have been introduced in four cities *i.e.* Delhi, Aligarh, Lucknow and Hyderabad.

(3) A pilot scheme on 'Home remedies kit' for 15 common ailments based on Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy medicines has been introduced in 100 villages each in 21 States in the country.

(4) To support the efforts of the State Governments to improve the availability of essential Ayurvedic, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy drugs in dispensaries situated in rural and backward areas, a scheme has been introduced wherein assistance at the rate of Rs. 25,000/- per dispensary per year is provided.

(5) Government has implemented a Centrally sponsored scheme for setting up of General and Specialised treatment centres of Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy in Allopathic hospitals. Under this scheme,

assistance up to Rs. 35.00 lakh is provided to the Allopathic hospitals for setting up of such facilities.

(b) and (c) The post of Homoeopathic Pharmacist in the CGHS Homoeopathic Unit, Shahadra, Delhi had fallen vacant due to the retirement of the incumbent on 31.8.2004. Orders have since been issued for posting of a Homoeopathic Pharmacist to the above Homoeopathic Unit.

Primary Health Centres in Assam

1702. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals formulated by Government to upgrade the existing Primary Health Centres in the State of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Primary Health Centre-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of funds allotted for this purpose by Government during the year 2004-05?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The State Government of Assam has a proposal to upgrade 146 Block Primary Health Centres (PHCs) to provide them with 24 hours delivery system and also to upgrade some of these PHCs into Community Health Centres (CHCs).

(d) The State Government is yet to submit a formal proposal in this regard;

Generic Drugs

1703. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medicines like generic drugs are running parallel in large numbers in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken to check it?